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Forty-eighth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 111

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Angola, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Kenya, Malawi, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Sudan and Togo: draft resolution

Merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976, in which it endorsed the establishment of an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976 concerning the guidelines regarding the activities of the Institute,

Considering its resolution 43/101 of 8 December 1988, in which it reaffirmed the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women and called upon the Commission to promote the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 1/ up to the year 2000 based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the sub-theme "Employment, health and education",

Recognizing the importance of adequate preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995 under the guidance of the Conference secretariat and the role therein of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

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1/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/17 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council requested the Institute to assist in the substantive preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women, given its essential role in research, training and statistical expertise,

Noting also that the Institute is the only autonomous United Nations institution with headquarters in the Latin American and Caribbean region,

Emphasizing that the ultimate goal of restructuring should be to strengthen the programmes for the advancement of women and to enhance the efficiency of the work of these organizations, in function, structure and cost-effectiveness,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council agreed to the recommendation of the Secretary-General to merge the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, subject to a proper analysis of the legal, financial and administrative implications of the merger, and subject to consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235, 2/

1. Affirms that the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women should retain its separate identity and autonomy to pursue independent research and related training activities important for the advancement of women;

2. Urges that the interaction between the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women be reviewed and rationalized within the context of ongoing efforts to revitalize the Economic and Social Council in pursuance of a stronger, more unified programme for the advancement of women;

3. Requests that there be included in the agenda of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women an additional item entitled "Rationalization and strengthening of the structures for the advancement of women in the United Nations system" and that a report on the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women on this item be submitted to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women with regard to financial, staffing and budgetary implications in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2/ A/48/591.

5. Requests that no further action be taken on the proposed merger of the Institute and the Fund until the matter of the larger structure has been reviewed by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.